

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for creating a workflow process management application suitable for an organization, comprising:

(a) creating, on a computer system, a plurality of department objects, each of said department objects being associated with a respective department of said organization;

(b) creating, on said computer system, a plurality of resource objects, each resource object being associated with at least one of said department objects and a production resource of said organization;

(c) creating, on said computer system, a plurality of activity objects, each activity object being associated with at least one of said department objects and an activity of said organization; and

(d) after steps (a), (b), and (c), and responsive to a command, automatically generating, by said computer system, said workflow process management application from said department objects, resource objects, and activity objects;

wherein said workflow process management application, when executed by said computer, permits a user to:

enter, for each department, a workflow plan for said department,

generate worker assignments,

receive a workflow performed by departments of said organization, and

create a report comparing said workflow plan with said workflow performed;

said workflow process management application using said report to automatically generate subsequent worker assignments without further interaction with the user;

wherein said workflow plan comprises a plurality of standards, each one of said standards inter-relating at least one activity object with at least one resource object as a function of time and skill level.

2. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein in said workflow process management application, said user enters a workflow plan by creating relationships between said resource and activity objects for each department.

3. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said plurality of activity objects comprise a plurality of fixed activity objects and variable activity objects.

4. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

selecting from a group of templates, a selected template; and

after said selecting, automatically creating a plurality of department, resource, and activity objects associated with said selected template.

5. (previously presented) The method of claim 4, wherein said group of templates includes a template associated with hospital management and said plurality of department, resource, and activity objects associated with said template are respectively associated with departments, resources, and activities of a hospital.

6. (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

creating, on said computer system, a plurality of objects related to groups, locations, and acuties;

wherein said set of objects further comprises said plurality of objects related to groups, locations, and acuties.

7. (previously presented) The method of claim 6, wherein in said workflow process management application, said user enters a workflow plan by creating relationships between said resource objects, activity objects, and objects related to groups, locations, and acuties.

8. (previously presented) A computer readable medium, comprising:

a web based application comprising a plurality of web pages and a plurality of database tables, said web based application being executable by a computer;

wherein the computer, when executing the application, permits a user to:

(a) create, a plurality of department objects, each respectively associated with a department;

(b) for each of said plurality of department objects,

create a plurality of resource objects, each resource object being associated with at least one of said department objects and a production resource of said organization using a skill matrix,

create a plurality of activity objects, each activity object being associated with at least one of said department objects and an activity of said organization, and

(c) after steps (a) and (b), and responsive to a command by said user, cause said computer to automatically generate a workflow process management application from said department objects, resource objects, and activity objects;

wherein

said workflow process management application permits said user to enter, for each department, a workflow plan for said department, receive a workflow performed by departments of said organization, and create a report comparing said workflow plan with said workflow performed,

said workflow plan comprises a plurality of standards, each one of said standards inter-relating at least one activity object with at least one resource object as a function of time and skill level, and

said workflow process management application defines acuities, each acuity including a set of activities that require a minimum skill level and/or licensure, and uses said acuities to determine worker assignments, and said workflow process management application uses said report to automatically generate subsequent worker assignments without further interaction with the user.

9. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 8, wherein in said workflow process management application, said user enters a workflow plan by creating relationships between said resource and activity objects for each department.

10. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 8, wherein said application further permits said user to create a plurality of objects related

to groups, locations, and acuties, and said set of objects further comprises said plurality of objects related to groups, locations, and acuties.

11. (previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 8, wherein in said workflow process management application, said user enters a workflow plan by creating relationships between said resource objects, activity objects, and objects relating to groups, locations, and acuties.

12. (currently amended) An apparatus for creating a workflow process management application for an organization, comprising:

a computer system, including a processor for executing code and a mass storage device; and

an application for execution on said computer system;

wherein the computer system, when executing said application, permits a user to:

(a) create a plurality of department objects, each respectively associated with a department;

(b) for each of said plurality of department objects,

create a plurality of resource objects, each resource object being associated with at least one of said department objects and a production resource of said organization;

create a plurality of activity objects, each activity object being associated with at least one of said department objects and an activity of said organization; and

(c) after steps (a) and (b), and responsive to a command by said user, cause said computer system to generate a workflow process management application from said department objects, resource objects, and activity objects,

wherein

said workflow process management application permits a user to enter, for each department, a workflow plan for said department, generate worker assignments, create a first report corresponding to planned workflow and expected needs, receive a workflow performed by said organization, and create a second report comparing said workflow plan with said workflow performed to automatically determine workflow productivity, said workflow process management application uses said second report to automatically generate subsequent worker assignments without further interaction with the user,

said workflow plan comprises a plurality of standards, each one of said standards inter-relating at least one activity object with at least one resource object as a function of time, and

said workflow process management application defines acuties, each acuity including a set of activities that require a minimum skill level and/or licensure, ~~and uses said acuties to determine worker assignments.~~

13. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein in said workflow process management application, said user enters a workflow plan by creating relationships between said resource and activity objects for each department.

14. (previously presented) The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said plurality of activity objects comprise a plurality of fixed activity objects and variable activity objects.

15. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

displaying a page in a user interface, said page comprising:

a logo region;

a menu region, including at least one menu item;

a navigation region; and

a context sensitive area.

16. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein the objects created in said creating step are based on user events generated by a user interacting with said menu region, navigation region, and context sensitive area.

17. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein said context sensitive area includes a hierarchical control object for showing and hiding a list of hierarchical objects.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein said hierarchical objects comprise at least one department of said organization.

19. (previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein

said application further permits said user to create a plurality of objects related to groups, locations, and acuties,

said set of objects further comprises said plurality of objects related to groups, locations, and acuities, and

said hierarchical objects comprise at least one location of said organization.

20. (original) The method of claim 15, wherein said menu region comprise at least one of a menu item and a sub-menu.

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) A computer implemented method of performing a workflow process management application for an organization, said method comprising:

entering a user input workflow plan for a department, each department being associated with at least one department object, each department object being associated with at least one resource object, each resource object being further associated with a production resource of the organization, each department object also being associated with at least one activity object that is associated with an activity of the organization;

generating worker assignments:

creating a first report corresponding to planned workflow and expected needs;

inputting an indication of workflow performed;

creating a second report comparing the entered workflow plan with the input workflow performed; and

automatically generating subsequent worker assignments without further interaction with the user based on information in the second report.